

Dear Members of the Human Services Committee of Connecticut General Assembly:

My name is Sandra Trigueros, I am a resident from West Haven, CT. I am an immigrant from Guatemala. I stand in support of S.B. No. 284.

I first came to this country in 1995 and resided in Connecticut since. Both me and my husband are immigrants from Guatemala. We have three kids who are all first generation college students. Additionally, I am going to school to get my GED at Adult Education in New Haven, CT. As of right now, I do not work and I am working on my studies with dreams to open a business - a restaurant or food truck.

We are so grateful that our children have health insurance. However, my husband and I do not have the same benefits due to our immigration status. Unfortunately, I was diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis when I was only 20 years old. Later on, I would be diagnosed with Fibromyalgia. It became worse when COVID hit, as I contracted COVID three times due to my condition. As a result I now have numerous bills from hospital visits that I don't know how I'm going to pay. Please consider giving health insurances to young immigrants so they don't go through the same things I went through. I support S.B. No 284, with clear language to extend current HUSKY eligibility rules to all CT residents, regardless of immigration status, and I ask the committee to support this legislation.

Thank you for your time.